

March 1, 2017

The Honorable Scott Pruitt Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt,

The New England Council, the nation's oldest regional business association, would be honored if you would accept our invitation to speak to our members at a Federal Policy Briefing, part of our Annual Spring Event in Washington, DC, on the afternoon of **Wednesday**, **May 3**, **2017**. The briefing will be held at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel from **2:00 – 4:00 p.m**.

Founded in 1925, The New England Council is a non-partisan alliance of businesses, academic and health institutions, and public and private organizations throughout New England formed to promote economic growth and a high quality of life in the New England region. Our mission is to identify and support federal public policies and articulate the voice of its membership regionally and nationally on important issues facing New England. The Council works to foster positive working relationships between its members and key federal policy makers, including members of Congress and leaders of federal agencies.

Each spring, over 250 New England Council members – including CEOs and other senior executives from many of New England's largest and most well-respected businesses, non-profits, and other institutions – gather in the nation's capital for our Annual Spring Event. In addition to meetings and events on Capitol Hill, the highlight of our visit is a Federal Policy Briefing featuring Cabinet officials, senior White House staff, and other key federal policy makers. In recent years, we have been honored to welcome several White House Chiefs of Staff, Cabinet Secretaries, and leaders from other federal agencies, including the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, the Federal Communications Commission, the Export-Import Bank of the U.S., and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Former Administrator Christine Todd-Whitman has also addressed our members at a prior briefing.

The briefing is an excellent opportunity for the new Administration to highlight priorities and initiatives that will impact the business community for a broad audience of leaders from all six New England states. We hope that you will join us to share your vision for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) during your tenure as Administrator. I know that our members would greatly appreciate the opportunity to hear you discuss the EPA's responsibilities and how the Agency plans to address them going forward. In the event that you are not able to join us, we would gladly welcome one of your top deputies as a speaker. We generally hear from 4-5 speakers over the course of the afternoon, each speaking for 10-15 minutes and taking some questions.

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If you or your staff have any questions, please don't hesitate to be in touch with me or with Peter Phipps in our Washington, DC, office at (202) 547-0048 or pphipps@newenglandcouncil.com. We look forward to hearing from you and hope to see you in May.

Sincerely,

James T. Brett President & CEO